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Greece: The Papadopoulos regime is in control of the situation, but it appears in no hurry to depose King Constantine formally or to abolish the monarchy.

The appointment of a regent suggests that Papadopoulos may not at this point be considering a complete break with the monarchy. During a press conference yesterday, Papadopoulos described the King merely as being "absent from his duties" and said that in naming a regent, Greece was following constitutional procedures.

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It seems unlikely that Constantine would be willing to return simply as a powerless, figurehead monarch, probably the best he could expect from the present rulers. Some compromise, however, preserving the institution of the monarchy may be possible. The present government will be under strong pressure from some of the more radical members of the junta to abolish the monarchy entirely. The new draft constitution, originally scheduled for submission today but now postponed "for a few days," should give some indication of the role the junta expects the monarchy to play in the future.

There is still no firm information of Constantine's personal plans.

So far, the attempted overthrow has had no noticeable effect on the Cyprus situation. On 14 December, Greek Foreign Minister Pipinelis told the Turks that Greece intends to fulfill the terms of the Greek-Turkish agreement.

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NOTE

Czechoslovakia: There continues to be disagreement among Czechoslovak leaders on party policy and leadership changes which may involve party first secretary Novotny. A party central committee plenum, reportedly scheduled to meet on 13 December to deal with these matters, is now said to have been postponed a week.

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